

Approved
MEETING MINUTES
STATE CONSUMER AND FAMILY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

March 12, 2009

Present: Nancy Black, Wilda Brown, Terry Burgess, Zack Commander, Bill Cook, Kathy Crocker, Libby Jones, Laura Keeney, Ron Kendrick, Paul Russ, Andrea Stevens, David Taylor Jr. and Rosemary Weaver.

Absent: Gladys Christian, Marianne Clayter, Carol DeBerry, Roger Griesinger, Carl Noyes, Renee Sisk, Amelia Thorpe, and Glenda Woodson.

Staff Present: Leza Wainwright, Chris Phillips, Cathy Kocian and Jesse Sowa.

Guests: Carolyn Anthony, Gail Boswell, Fred Johnson and Judy Taylor.

Presenter & Topic	Discussion	Action
Welcome: Ron Kendrick, SCFAC Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The meeting was called to order at 9:30 A.M.• Ron expressed condolences to Paul Russ for his recent loss of a close family member.	The agenda was approved with changes. The February minutes were approved.
Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gail Boswell, Beacon CFAC member, stated her concerns regarding the importance of consumer and family voice being a necessity with the General Assembly (GA) and the local LMEs. Ron Kendrick spoke to SCFAC efforts currently underway with the Legislative Oversight Committee (LOC).• Rosemary Weaver presented NAMI's <i>Grading the States 2009</i> report to SCFAC. Members had concerns that the report didn't capture active consumer empowerment initiatives occurring in NC (i.e. CFACs and SCFAC). In addition, most local CFACs have expressed concerns regarding the grade. It was noted that the General Assembly provided \$100,000 for Leadership trainings that were held for consumer and family members across the state last year and that this was not reflected in the report. The following categories were utilized in determining consumer and family empowerment:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Consumer and Family Test Drive (the ease with which a consumer and/or family member can gather needed information from the state agency's web site and/or phone service),○ Consumer and Family Monitoring,○ Consumer/Family on State Pharmacy (P&T) Committee,○ Consumer-Run Programs (availability),○ Promote Peer-Run Services,○ State Supports Family Education Programs,○ State Supports Peer Education Programs and○ State Supports Provider Education Programs.	Wilda Brown and Rosemary Weaver agreed to draft a position statement to NAMI National, NAMI NC, the General Assembly, Secretary Cansler, and ELT.

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<p>Discussion with Division Leadership Leza Wainwright</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leza discussed the NAMI report with SCFAC members and agreed with the committee that the report doesn't accurately reflect all of the work NC has done. In fact, 90% of the grade is based on accessibility of web sites in each state. President Obama's message to the country is "pay for what works" and when the entire country receives an overall grade of 'D' this doesn't positively reflect services and funding. Leza agreed that the report's methodology had problems. She noted that the report recommended "Restoring ACT funding cuts" and that ACT funding cuts had not been made. • The White House and Governor Perdue will host one of three National Forums on Tuesday, March 31, 2009 in Greensboro, N.C. at 10:30 A.M. • The General Assembly is in session and bills are being filed at a fast pace; even those that require additional funding that have little chance of passing. The Governor's Budget is coming out next Tuesday and our hope is to just maintain what we have in terms of services. The Appropriations Committees are reviewing funding issues and it appears that there might not be a lot of new money this year for services. One of the questions being asked is "<i>Why can't families provide more of the services for free to adults?</i>" This question reflects a basic lack of understanding of MH/DD/SAS issues. The Governor has stated that the cuts to MH/DD/SAS and to Education will be less than to other agencies. Paul Russ asked about the current status of the Lottery funds that were geared toward Education. Leza explained that most of the Lottery funds go toward building schools. • Leza spoke about the House Mental Health Reform Committee. The committee is comprised of the following members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Representative William Brissom and Beverly Earle, Co-Chairs ○ Representative M. Alexander and Jeff Barnhart, Vice Chairs, ○ Representative Blackwood, Rep. Braxton, Rep. Crawford, Rep. England, Rep. Glazier, Rep. Hurley, Rep. Insko, Rep. Justus, Rep. Langdon, Rep. McGee, Rep. McLawhorn, Rep. Neumann, Rep. Parmon, Rep. Randleman and Rep. Wiley. <p>Current discussion in this committee involved the best way to introduce legislation. Bills have deadlines for submission which are based on appropriation needs. All Bills with money attached to them must be submitted by April 15, 2009 and Bills without money need to be submitted by March 30, 2009.</p> • There are proposed changes to the Involuntary Commitment Statute that would allow individuals who are committed involuntarily and who have significant medical issues to remain in a general hospital for up to 5 days to stabilize their medical condition prior to transportation and admission to a psychiatric facility. • Ron Kendrick inquired about Dempsey Benton's current appointment to the 	
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	<p>Office of Economic Recovery and Investment. He has expressed his intent to study the feasibility of utilizing a portion of the recovery funding to assist with the homeless population in N.C. and Martha Are has been re-assigned to assist him. The Department has applied for some support from this funding to address domestic violence issues. Leza discussed the term “Housing First” which is a term used at the national level to describe the intent of obtaining housing for individuals prior to mental health and/or substance abuse treatment. Finally, the DHHS hopes to acquire roughly \$158 million to expand information technology in the facilities which would include electronic health information.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bill Cook inquired about the distribution of funds specifically earmarked for Gambling Addiction. Leza mentioned that the Division has a contract with a company in Chicago, Bensinger DuPont and Associates, that oversees the Gambling Hotline as well as other services related to problems with gambling.• Ron Kendrick addressed the current budget. Presently, MH/DD/SAS has taken a 6.5% cut while other Departments have undergone a 9% reduction in funds.• Leza discussed Secretary Cansler’s past experience with the General Assembly and the fact that he is well-acquainted with the people and the processes. Leza noted that he has a focus on MH/DD/SAS and that he has good knowledge, desire and ability but that these are hard economic times.• Laura Keeney mentioned that many committees in the general Assembly are comprised of people who are retired, are attorneys, business people and faith based professionals with less than adequate detailed knowledge about issues related to their committee assignments. Leza stated that North Carolina’s is a citizen legislature and that members only make approximately \$13,000 a year but committee assignment often does take into account their stated interests. Libby Jones said that many individuals on the committees need education and training on current issues being discussed.• Wilda Brown commented on the MH Commission and stated that Rules can change and that it is important that people are apprised of the changes. The MH Commission is composed of 32 members and makes the rules for MH/DD/SAS. The Chair must be an attorney, and the current chair is John R.Corne. The members are appointed as follows:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The Senate Pro-Tem appoints 4 members,○ The Speaker of the House appoints 4 members and○ The Governor appoints 24 members to the Commission.• Rosemary Weaver asked about Medicaid Utilization Management transitioning to the LMEs and inquired about start up funds for the local LMEs. Leza stated that there are no start-up funds available for this and assuming this function will cost LMEs around \$2 million to start. LMEs could	
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	use either their fund balance or county share funds to start and continue to administer Medicaid UM. Western Highlands Network is undecided as to whether to assume this responsibility. Mecklenburg has backed out due to financial concerns. Eastpointe and Durham are preparing to start performing this function.	
Proposed Statute Changes Chris Phillips	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disability Rights NC (DRNC) has proposed that changes be made to the current statutes NC GS 122C-170 Local Consumer and Family Advisory Committees and NC GS 122C-171 State Consumer and Family Advisory Committee. Chris Phillips went over the proposed changes with the members of the SCFAC. The members did not object to the change to the State CFAC statute since what the change calls for is already happening. SCFAC members do not support the proposed changes to the local CFAC statute. SCFAC members are offended that Annaliese Dolph, Attorney with DRNC, did not even attempt to contact SCFAC members prior to suggesting the proposed changes. Kathy Crocker stated that this is a violation of the empowerment principle of “nothing about us without us.” Laura Keeney suggested inviting DRNC to a future SCFAC meeting. Several SCFAC members agreed to attend the meeting scheduled with Rep. Verla Insko, DRNC staff and Chris Phillips on Monday, March 16, 2009. 	Kathy Crocker, Nancy Black and Ron Kendrick will attend the meeting in Raleigh on Monday, March 16, 2009 to voice their objection to changing the statute.
Communication with the General Assembly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A motion was made to include members of the General Assembly on all position statements developed by the State CFAC. The motion was approved. 	
Making the most of SCFAC representation at LOC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SCFAC members discussed the best ways to utilize this position. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have a list of generic issues Be prepared to identify the people/communities we represent. 	
SCFAC Communication with local Representatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members agreed to contact at least one local representative in their respective areas. The purpose of the contact is to establish a method of communication, and build a relationship to best serve the needs of the people in their own communities. 	Cathy Kocian will develop a list of all the Senators and Representatives in each member’s catchment area and distribute the list to SCFAC members via email.
Secretary Cansler Invitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secretary Cansler has agreed to meet with SCFAC from 10:30-11:30 AM on April 9, 2009. The following topics will be addressed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing system wide accountability, Promoting consistency in services, Establishing a more stable service system and Determining the best way to stay in communication with the Secretary as we move forward. 	SCFAC members will review the current topics and provide input prior to the next SCFAC meeting if additional topics need to be considered.
Appointment of a Parliamentarian	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SCFAC members discussed the possibility of appointing a parliamentarian to SCFAC. A motion was made to appoint one, but the motion was not supported by a majority of votes. 	The SCFAC Chair will appoint someone to oversee SCFAC in the absence of the SCFAC Chair/Vice Chair.

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Plans Task Team Zack Commander	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zack requested to make a report at the April 2009 SCFAC meeting. 	
Budget Task Team Nancy Black	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nancy provided an update on the budget committee. The team is currently meeting with Bill Scott to gather further information and data. In addition, Nancy is going to email Leza and request her input on what she wants included in the upcoming budget. • Nancy stated that she has requested that the County Funds Report have columns added for the tax base per capita, the percentage of the tax base to the county contribution and the ranking of the county by percentage of the tax base. She also requested that Bill Scott assist SCFAC with a power point presentation at their May meeting on how to read LME income statements. 	Bill Scott will assist SCFAC members with learning how to read a budget including LME income statements at the May meeting.
SCFAC/LCFAC Interface Task Team Kathy Crocker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kathy Crocker met with Frank Edwards to discuss methods of communication between SCFAC and local CFACs. The conversation resulted in ideas about methods of communication between the State and local CFACs including SCFAC Communication Bulletins to local CFACs, a web-based blog for local CFAC Chairs and Co-Chairs to use to communicate with one another and possibly a quarterly conference call/meeting between CFAC Chairs and Co-Chairs. • The SCFAC/LCFAC Interface Task team will send out the SCFAC Effectiveness Review tool to all local CFACs to utilize if they so chose. • The task team is in the process of developing the survey letter that will be distributed to local CFACs with the annual electronic survey to receive their findings per statute. 	Rosemary Weaver will draft the final letter to be distributed to local CFACs.
Services Task Team Andrea Stevens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The task team has some fairly large tasks to address and the top two are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Transportation and 2. Awareness of <i>How to Access the System</i>. 	
Next Meeting Date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The next meeting is scheduled for April 9, 2009 from 9:30 A.M.-3:00 P.M. The meeting will be held in the Four Sisters Room at the Clarion Hotel State Capital, 320 Hillsborough Street, Raleigh, N.C. 	
April 2009 Meeting Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of the Agenda. • Approval of the March 2009 minutes. • Discussion with Division Leadership. • Secretary Cansler. • Substance Abuse Presentation. • Task Team Reports. • Task Team Work Sessions. 	
Future Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bill Scott- How to Read a Budget 	